PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶:

C07K 16/00

A2

(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/37681

(43) International Publication Date: 29 July 1999 (29.07.99)

EP

(21) International Application Number: PCT/FP99/00481

(22) International Filing Date: 25 January 1999 (25.01.99)

(30) Priority Data: 98300525.7 26 January 1998 (26.01.98)

(71) Applicant (for AU BB CA CY GB GD GH GM IE IL KE LC LK LS MN MW NZ SD SG SL SZ TT UG ZW only): UNILEVER PLC [GB/GB]; Unilever House, Blackfriars, London EC4P 4BQ (GB).

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except AU BB CA CY GB
GD GH GM IE IL IN KE LC LK LS MN MW NZ SD SG
SL SZ TT UG US ZW): UNILEVER N.V. [NL/NL]; Weena
455, NL-3013 AL Rotterdam (NL).

(71) Applicant (for IN only): HINDUSTAN LEVER LIMITED [IN/IN]; Hindustan Lever House, 165/166 Backbay Reclamation, Mumbai 400 020, Maharashtra (IN).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): FRENKEN, Leo, Gerardus, Joseph [NL/NL]; Unilever Research Vlaardingen, Olivier van Noortlaan 120, NL-3133 AT Vlaardingen (NL). VAN DER LOGT, Cornelis, Paul, Brik [NL/GB]; Unilever

Research Colworth, Colworth House, Shambrook, Bedford MK44 1LQ (GB).

(74) Agent: EVANS, J., G., V.; Unilever plc, Patent Dept., Colworth House, Sharnbrook, Bedford MK44 1LQ (GB).

(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TI, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TI, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

(54) Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING ANTIBODY FRAGMENTS

(57) Abstract

An expression library comprising a repertoire of nucleic acid sequences each encoding at least part of a variable domain of a heavy chain derived from an immunoglobulin naturally devoid of light chains and its use in producing antibodies, particularly fragments thereof, is disclosed. The invention provides a method for preparing antibodies, or fragments thereof, having a specificity for a target antigen which avoids the need for the donor previously to have been immunised with the target antigen.